

Abstract

1 An hand-held optical symbol scanner assembly employs black-light diodes to
2 illuminate luminescent or phosphorescent bar code symbols that are invisibly
3 printed or formed the surface of an article. The scanner has an array of far blue or
4 UV LEDs or laser diodes on its distal face, and a nosepiece or shroud mounted on
5 the distal face of the scanner device. There can be a transparent plate at the distal
6 end of the nosepiece, mounted at an angle to the optic axis, and a filter (yellow or
7 orange) in advance of the imager device within the scanner.